

Serial No. 09/974,806

REMARKS

A communication filed by Certificate of Facsimile transmission on June 29, 2005 pointed out portions of the subject Office Action which appear defective or at least unclear and requested clarification of same.

The Communication requested the issuance of a replacement Office Action, responding to the inquiries set forth in the Communication - - but no response has been received.

Applicants accordingly are filing the present Response under protest and again request that the current Action be withdrawn and replaced by a corrected Action, in the event the Examiner's response to the enclosed results in other than an allowance of the application.

THE FOREGOING AMENDMENTS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 9 and 11 are amended, claims 13-22 are canceled and new claims 23-24 are added.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 are allowed.

Claims 9-13 and 15-22 are rejected.

As a result of the foregoing amendments, claims 13-22 are cancelled, allowed claims 1-8 remain allowed, without change, and claims 9-12 remain pending along with new claims 23 and 24.

Support for amended claim 9 is provided in Fig. 12 and the description on lines 3 to 16 of page 22. According to the invention of claim 9, when any one of the first high voltage and plural drive voltages is detected to be out of a predetermined level range, the internal power supply control unit stops the operation of the internal power supply circuit so as to prevent an undesirable picture from being displayed due to the abnormal level driving voltages.

Support for amended claim 11 is provided in Fig. 14 and the corresponding description. According to the invention of claim 11, the start operation and the stop operation has a hysteresis characteristic so that the start and stop operations are not performed repeatedly with the basis of a single specific value.

ITEM 2: OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 16-18

This objection is rendered moot by the cancellation of those claims.

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ITEM 4: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 9-12 AND 22 FOR OBVIOUSNESS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a) OVER CRISCIMAGNA et al. (USP 4,017,762)

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

This reference discloses a discharge display device in which the frequency of the sustain pulse is controllable is disclosed. The margin of a difference, between a largest minimum sustain voltage and a smallest maximum sustain voltage of all cells in the panel, shifts toward higher or lower along the operating life of the panel is extended. Further, this margin shifts as shown in Fig. 2 as a function of frequency. Therefore, according to this reference, the sustain voltage is detected and the frequency output from the voltage control oscillator is adjusted according to the detected level.

By contrast to the reference, according to the amended claim 9, not only the first high voltage (sustain voltage) but also the plural drive voltages generated by the internal power supply circuit are detected. Further, the internal power supply circuit is controlled to be stopped, based on the detected voltage level. Accordingly, the invention as defined by claim 9 is differs patentably from Criscimagna, in which frequency is controlled by the detected sustain voltage.

New claim 23 affords a differing scope of protection than that of amended claim 9 but distinguishes over the reference for similar reasons.

ITEM 5: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 19-21 FOR OBVIOUSNESS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) OVER KANAZAWA IN VIEW OF KURIKKO (USP 5,786,813)

This rejection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claims 19-21.

ITEM 7: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 13, 15-18 FOR ANTICIPATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(e) BY KURIKKO

This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of the referenced claims.

ITEM 9: CLAIM 10 IS OBJECTED TO AS BEING DEPENDENT UPON A REJECTED BASE CLAIM BUT AS ALLOWABLE IF SUITABLY REWRITTEN INTO INDEPENDENT FORM

It is submitted that claim 9 is now allowable and, accordingly, that claim 10 -- which additionally has been indicated to be allowable -- is allowable along with its allowable independent claim 9. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn

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CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it has been shown that the claims pending herein patentably distinguish over the references of record and, there being no other objections or rejections, that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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